Contract for supply of parts of Bofors Gun

†2171. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the companies with which Government have arrived at agreement for the supply of parts of Bofors Gun and the details therefor;

(b) whether Government have wound up the agreement with few companies;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the companies with which agreement has been wound up; and

(d) with which companies Government have entered into new agreements and the details thereof indicating the terms and conditions and the difference between the two agreements?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Snags in Trishul

2172. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether snags detected in 'Trishul" have led to putting the surface to air missile programme on back burner;

(b) whether two of the five tests conducted on Trishul missile failed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the sanctions imposed by the US leading to non-delivery of essential spares has led to the failure; and

(d) the extent of set-back suffered by the missile programme?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Trishul surface to air missile is being progressed as technology demonstrator, de-linking from the user services. While number of complex technologies and sea skimming capability have been established, the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.